

REMARKS

Applicants hereby elect the invention of Group I (i.e. claims 1-24) for prosecution in this application.

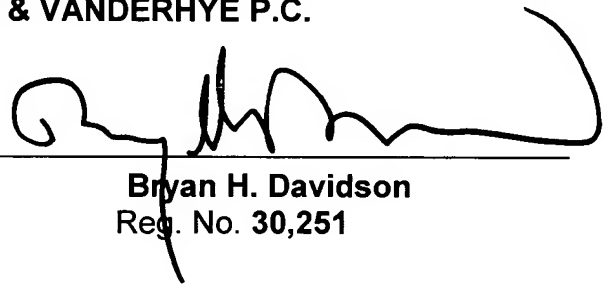
The claims of Groups II (i.e., claims 25-43) directed to a patentably distinct inventions non-elected for prosecution herein have been cancelled, but such cancellation has been effected without prejudice to the applicants' rights under 35 USC §121.

A favorable action on the merits of the elected claims is awaited.

Respectfully submitted,

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